



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 2ND SQUADRON, 16TH U.S. CAVALRY REGIMENT
199TH INFANTRY BRIGADE (LEADER DEVELOPMENT)
BLDG 5144, 13TH ARMORED REGIMENT ROAD
FORT BENNING, GA 31905

ATZK-SBB

19 August 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR: Incoming Armor Lieutenants

SUBJECT: Welcome to the Armor Basic Officer Leader Course

1. Welcome to the U.S. Army's Armor Branch, "The Combat Arm of Decision", the 2nd Squadron, 16th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, 199th Infantry Brigade (Leader Development), and the Armor Basic Officer Leader Course (ABOLC). You will spend the next 19 weeks learning the fundamentals required to employ Mobile Protected Firepower and Reconnaissance and Security Operations in support of the Combined Arms Team.
2. The purpose of ABOLC is to forge physically fit, mentally agile, technically proficient leaders grounded in the Army Values and capable of decisive operations as part of a combined arms team. You are expected to report to ABOLC with a strong baseline of skills and character traits to build upon. I expect you to be physically fit, morally/ethically sound, possess a professional attitude and behavior, willing/motivated to learn, able to communicate effectively (verbally/in writing), possess a basic understanding of tactics and grounded with basic combat skills (rifle marksmanship, land navigation, Soldier first responder/basic first aid skills, and comms skills).
3. Expect this course to challenge you mentally and physically. When you arrive at Fort Benning you must meet the height and weight standards outlined in Army Regulation 600-9 and pass the Army Physical Fitness test (APFT). If you arrive over weight or cannot pass the APFT you will not enter the course.
4. For active duty officers, ABOLC is your first Permanent Change of Station (PCS) duty station. Your family is authorized and welcome to accompany you to Fort Benning. Fort Benning offers both bachelor officer quarters and family housing for dependents. For availability during your time here contact the Villages of Benning at www.villagesofbenning.com. This is a demanding course. You will need to study and spend time in the field, but you will also have the opportunity to spend time with your family and learn to balance your professional, personal, and family responsibilities.
5. For further information please like us on Facebook at 2-16 Cavalry "Saber Squadron" or visit the 2-16 CAV link at <http://www.benning.army.mil/infantry/199th/216/>. On our webpage you will find useful information for reporting, suggested reading, and course outline. We frequently add new content to the site so check for updates.
6. Again, welcome to the Armor Branch. I look forward to meeting you. Please call my staff for additional assistance at 706-626-8338 or after duty hours at 706-626-8322.

STRIKE FAST!

DENNIS R. ATKINS III
LTC, AR
Commanding